

right to vote to all citizens. This attack showed the world the insensitivity and brutality of opponents to voting rights and, ultimately, led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965.

Through the vision and work of Rose and Hank Sanders and their work through the Museum and Jubilee, thousands of Alabama children, residents, tourists and others from around our country and the world have learned about the courageous acts of those who marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge and others who have fought to advance the struggle to gain the civil and voting rights we now enjoy.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me and my colleague JOHN LEWIS as we commend the efforts of Rose and Hank Sanders and the important work they have done to advance justice, equality and the right to vote in the United States.

RECOGNIZING NARFE CHAPTER  
1270 OF WOODBRIDGE FOR ITS  
EFFORTS TO FUND ALZHEIMER'S  
RESEARCH

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 26, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chapter 1270 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) in Woodbridge, Virginia, and to commend its members for raising \$16,552 for Alzheimer's disease research in 2011.

Founded in 1921, NARFE is the only membership organization solely dedicated to leading an advocacy effort to protect and preserve the benefits of federal workers and retirees. The national organization consists of more than 1,300 chapters nationwide with more than 300,000 members. Chapter 1270 has more than 750 members that make up an active and robust chapter in eastern Prince William County.

Alzheimer's is a progressive, degenerative disease and is the sixth leading cause of death in the U.S. Currently, 5.4 million Americans are living with the disease, and projections estimate that as many as 16 million Americans will suffer from Alzheimer's in 2050. This illness also has profound impacts on families and caregivers. More than 60% of caregivers rate the emotional stress of caregiving as very high and one-third report symptoms of depression.

Since 1985, NARFE has raised nearly \$10 million and funded 56 research projects dedicated to Alzheimer's disease research. The NARFE Virginia Federation of Chapters (VFC) was recognized as the top fundraising Federation in the country at the 32nd Biennial National NARFE Convention in Sparks, Nevada, on August 26, 2012. Luther Santiful, VFC President, William Shackelford, Past VFC President and Donna Shackelford, VFC Alzheimer's Chair, accepted the honor at the opening ceremonies of the convention. During 2011, the VFC raised an incredible \$85,555.

The VFC and Chapter 1270 are national standouts in Alzheimer's fundraising. The VFC has led NARFE Federations in Alzheimer's fundraising for nine out of the last ten years. Chapter 1270 was the top fundraiser for the

VFC in each of the last ten years, and it raised the second highest amount nationwide for the second year in a row.

The Federal Government is an active partner in the battle against Alzheimer's. The National Institute on Aging is the primary Federal agency supporting and conducting Alzheimer's disease research and has worked closely with the Alzheimer's Association to identify and standardize strategies for earlier diagnosis and develop effective treatment and prevention. This is an investment that must continue; if nothing is done, the economic toll of Alzheimer's is estimated to exceed \$1 trillion in less than 40 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Woodbridge Chapter 1270 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association on this fundraising milestone. I extend my personal appreciation to the members of Chapter 1270 and to members of NARFE nationwide for their continued public service and their commitment to finding a cure for this devastating disease.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANGEL  
GOMEZ

**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 26, 2012*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Angel Gomez for selfless service to our community. He has helped thousands of people through his non-profit, Operation HOPE (Helping Other People Endure).

Selfless doesn't even begin to describe Angel Gomez.

Many lives have been touched by Angel, an appropriate name for a man with a heart the size of Texas.

A native of El Paso, Texas, he is a proud Bowie Bear Alumni and Veteran, having attended Bowie High School and later joining the United States Navy.

His real passion, other than serving his country in uniform, has always been helping others in need.

In 1995 he began volunteering his time to the community, with the support of his wife Patricia, daughter Rubi and other family members.

Seeing the growing need around him, he co-founded Operation HOPE in 2009, and he has invested his time and resources to help the El Paso community he loves so much.

Operation HOPE has allowed Angel to share his vision of community outreach with thousands of people in need. He works with community partners and volunteers who share the same values and passion for giving, and these relationships have made it possible to multiply his efforts to improve our community.

Over the past seventeen years, El Pasoans in need have received food baskets during the holidays, along with blankets, clothing, and medical supplies. Sick children who must spend much of their childhood in the hospital have received toys and gift baskets to lift their spirits. Hundreds of individuals with disabilities have received assistance with medical supplies, medications, durable medical equipment, and accessible ramps. And many families have received assistance with funeral expenses and spiritual support during their time of need.

Not only has his work brought tangible assistance to those in need, but behind each action is also something intangible, something money can't buy: hope.

On behalf of the El Paso community, I would like to thank Angel Gomez for all he has done for those in need and for the positive impact he continues to have in our community. He has restored our community's faith in the good that can be done by simply caring.

RECOGNIZING WEBB DINER FOR  
ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE  
COMMUNITY

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 26, 2012*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a woman-owned minority business in Tallahatchie County, Mississippi, Webb Diner. Owned and operated by Ms. Vera Williams since 1988, Webb Diner has become a true staple in the community.

Ms. Vera Williams is a native of Webb, where she has lived her entire life. Before starting her own business, Ms. Williams labored in the cotton fields of the Mississippi Delta and thereafter worked countless hours in its factories. In the late 1980s, Ms. Williams transformed Webb Diner, once known for its segregation practices, into an establishment that was open and welcoming to the public.

Despite obstacles Ms. Williams has shown continued dedication and resilience in providing the people of Tallahatchie County with nothing less than great service and Southern hospitality.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Vera Williams and Webb Diner for their contributions to the community.

RECOGNIZING THE PI LAMBDA  
LAMBDA CHAPTER OF THE  
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY,  
INC.

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 26, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. for its global recognition at the Omega Psi Phi's 78th Grand Conclave. The Pi Lambda Lambda Chapter earned the honors of International Large Chapter of the Year and the International Social Action Chapter of the Year for 2010-2011.

This is the third time the chapter has been named the International Social Action Chapter of the Year since its inception in 2004. The chapter prides itself on establishing community programs to help those in need in the Prince William County community. The chapter's dedication to public and social services can be seen through its annual Coat Drive, Step Out for Diabetes, Voter Registration, and Cancer Relay for Life programs.

Earning this distinction is a testament to the chapter's dedication to community empowerment. Members of the Pi Lambda Lambda